

Proposition 5 Would Help Finance New Hospitals

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO — For the next several issues, this column will deal with propositions on the Nov. 5 general election ballot.

Proposition 5 is designed to effectuate both a new method of financing hospitals in this state and to open a new field in state financing.

It authorizes the state legislature to insure, or guarantee loans made by public or private lenders to non-profit corporations and

public agencies for the construction of any public or non-profit hospital or hospital facility, or facility for the treatment of mental illness, and for original equipment for any such hospital facility.

Under present provisions of the constitution, the power of the legislature to insure or guarantee loans is limited.

The proposed amendment gives the legislature the power, unlimited by any other provision of the constitution, to insure or guar-

antee these hospital loans.

Several factors are involved as far as the reasons for the proposal are concerned. It is a known fact that there is a crying need for more hospital facilities in California, occasioned by the continuing increase in population, and the advent of Medicare and Medi-Cal, which provide for hospital care for the elderly.

Under the present system of hospital construction financing, the federal government supplies a third of the cost, the state a third, and

the remainder usually is made up by private financing, or public subscription in and around the area the new facility will serve.

There is a reason to believe this type of financing may be eliminated when and if the federal portion of the financing expires, as it will in another year unless the Congress extends the program which is known as the Hill-Burton Act.

Also, the state portion of the financing is good only for another year, under a

bill signed by Governor Ronald Reagan.

The idea of government-guaranteed loans is not a new one, having been practiced for many years under FHA, and the state veterans program, but the idea of extending this method of obtaining money for hospitals is new as applied to California.

Government-backed mortgage insurance, it is contended, would have the effect of encouraging banks and other financial agencies to enter the hospital con-

struction field, which now is more or less avoided by these institutions because hospitals are high-cost, single purpose buildings.

Sponsors of the measure, which originally was proposed by Senator Stephen Teale (D-West Point), a practicing physician, claim its adoption would assure the continued meeting of California hospital needs, for no matter what action is taken at the federal level, financing would be assured through state guaranteed loans.

Also, the construction projects would be approved by the State Advisory Hospital Board, thereby insuring that only properly-planned health facilities would be constructed.

Opponents of the measure admit the need for a new hospital financing program is necessary, but object to the amendment on grounds that it would permit private lenders to finance construction of non-profit hospitals with funds guaranteed by the state, which they fear might lead to over-building of facilities.

Your Right to Know Is the Key to All Your Liberties

-Comment and Opinion-

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1968

Your New Press-Herald

Welcome to the pages of your new Friday Press-Herald, a package of weekend values and news.

With the new Friday publication — which replaces the Sunday edition which has been published for more than 15 years — the Press-Herald staff hopes to be of greater assistance in

your planning for the weekend.

In today's Press-Herald you will find an expanded church news section, a weekend entertainment directory, and up-to-the-minute news of the community and its people.

Welcome to your new Friday Press-Herald. We think you'll like it.

Amplly Earned Respect

Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey whistle-stopped through the southland last week and spent a major part of Wednesday on the Pepperdine College campus where he addressed an audience of local governmental officials and students in the afternoon hours.

Pepperdine College isn't touted as being one of the state's foremost educational institutions. It isn't one of the larger campuses in the state and its administrators seldom are involved in controversies.

Yet, Pepperdine College — and its students — stood in a class by themselves during the Vice-President's visit.

The college is generally known to be of a politically conservative nature, yet the students showed all due respect to the Vice-President of the United States.

There were no jeering crowds, no hecklers and no demonstrations. Applause rippled through the audience and boomed forth on occasion during his speech.

It is refreshing, to say the least, to see college students show respect to a man in office — and seeking higher office — even though many proba-

bly did not agree with his political views.

Pepperdine College seldom makes the newspaper headlines. It is just a small college that stands for academic freedom in a Christian atmosphere. Its students even have to pay tuition.

As the saying goes, "Good things sometimes come in small packages."

Don't Arm Them

The proposal to arm some Los Angeles city firemen as a measure to protect them while fighting fires in troubled areas has reaped the heavy criticism it deserves.

Traditionally we look to our police and military personnel to protect us from the physical excesses of our fellowman, and to the fireman to control and extinguish unwanted fires.

If the firemen need protection — and they obviously think they do — whatever police or military units are needed to offer that protection should be provided.

But the idea of arming firemen is one that needs very serious study before it is adopted. We believe serious study will rule it out.



ROYCE BRIER

Recall Effort Shows Up Weakness of State Law

Recall of public officers in the United States was promoted by such reformers as the elder LaFollette in Wisconsin early in the century.

Advocates of the law predicted it would cure public ills, but like many measures presumed to advance self-government, it fell short of the goal. It was adopted for several hundred cities, and in a handful of states. One of its first uses was on a Seattle mayor, who was charged with keeping an open town. He was turned out of office, and a couple of years later ran again and was overwhelming elected. Some North Dakota governor was recalled in 1921.

The weakness of the law is that it can be initiated (in most cases by petition of 25 per cent of the votes at the last election) for cases of presumed mal-administration, which are often a matter of opinion, or even in partisan spite.

Governor Ronald Reagan may not be the most forthright governor since Grover Cleveland, but the effort to recall him was ill-advised be-

cause it rested on intangibles. The effort failed when the recallers could muster fewer than half a million names, where 780,000 were required.

The gubernatorial intangibles were many, and were mostly personal. His opponents didn't like the way he administered their affairs, nor his attitude to-

ward those affairs. They charged he was insensitive, and belligerently opposed to many humanitarian obligations which are now in varying degrees settled policy in all the states.

Another intangible was the Governor's extreme garrulity in all subjects of public concern. He chronically advised the federal government on the Vietnam war and other courses of national action which were not in his province, and he constantly advised the constituted educational authorities

and in fact the people on repeated campus crises. The man appears to be incapable of a "no comment" utterance when asked any question at all.

A governor to be sure is a citizen's unlimited right to an opinion on everything under the sun, but such expression is not an endearing trait in some circumstances, say in a statehouse. Nor were the recallers impressed with the Governor's vaunted articulation in the forum. Some of his syntax is pretty baffling, and sentences expanded to whole paragraphs resembled those of General Eisenhower when he is earnestly entangled in a subject.

But all of this was immaterial for recall. Unhappily, the manager of the recall conceded one purpose was to embarrass Mr. Reagan in his Presidential aspirations. This was the flimsiest reason of all.

It would apply equally to Governor Rockefeller. Half the American governors of this century have hungered to go to the White House, and most of them have invoked the "favorite son" racket.

WILLIAM HOGAN

Here Are Tales of New Intrigue, Old Horror

For collectors of Helen MacInnes, "The Salzburg Connection" is another entertainment by a writer whose vivid geographical setting, (Greece, France, Italy, Germany) are often more memorable than the exercises in espionage and intrigue she plays in them. This latest confection is performed in "The Sound of Music" country and is populated by attractive Austrian villagers, secret police, Nazis, Russian, British and American spies and someone who can only be Julie Andrews cast as a young lady refugee from a New York publishing house.

If you have stayed with Allen Drury through his series of American political novels since "Advise and Consent" (1959), you may want to investigate his new one, "Preserve and Protect." This zeroes in on a period of national violence and an extraordinary election year, much like this one. Drury establishes the tone of his opus, it seems to me, in this paragraph from his Notes to the Reader: "Running through previ-

ous novels, through this and others to come—as it runs through our times — is the continuing argument between those who would use responsible firmness to maintain orderly social progress and oppose the Communist drive for world domination, and those who believe that in a reluctance to be firm, in permissiveness, and in the steady erosion of

Browsing Through the World of Books

the law lies the surest path to world peace and a stable society."

The late Shirley Jackson soared to prominence as a writer with a single short story, "The Lottery," a hair-raising "intellectual horror story," as it has been called. It appeared in The New Yorker in the summer of 1948. The magazine later reported that the story had generated more mail (pro and con) than any other piece of fiction it had ever published.

Widely anthologized, this weird and upsetting tale of human sacrifice in a small

New England village appears again in a collection of Miss Jackson's shorter pieces, "Come Along With Me." The title is also the title of part of an unfinished novel included in it. Also here are texts of three lectures, one being a "biograph" of "The Lottery."

While Miss Jackson wrote several novels, two non-fiction books about her family and many other excellent short stories, "The Lottery" seemed to haunt her career. Before her death three years ago (in her mid-40s), she was remembered by most readers as the author of that one story.

The present collection, edited by her widower Stanley Edgar Hyman, suggests the range of this talent and emphasizes again the tragedy of a particularly interesting literary career cut off in mid-bloom.

The new book by the distinguished political commentator Arthur Hoppe carries a typically engaging title—"The Perfect Solution to Absolutely Everything." Edited by William German, it was launched this month.

Other Opinions

Scotland Neck (N. C.) Commonwealth: For many years this newspaper has been expressing the belief that justices of the United States Supreme Court and judges of the various federal district and appellate courts should not be named for lifetime terms but should be subject periodically either to election by the people or reappointment by the then sitting U. S. President, subject to approval of the United States Senate . . . the people are much better protected in their rights when those who rule are subject to the people for their acts. It is much better to depend on the voice of the people than to depend on the authoritarian acts of judges who have no checkrein on their activities.

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HERB CAEN SAYS:

Topless Peanuts Makes Her Debut

Caenfetti: Is anybody more pirated these days than Cartoonist Charles "Peanuts" Schulz? Not only is a B'way joint featuring a "Topless Peanuts," which bugs him mightily, the market is now flooded with dirty, faked "Peanuts" cartoon books, in which Lucy gets pregnant, and so on. "I guess some strange people find these things amusing," he says with a pregnant sigh.

Scraping Bottom: Who's the well-dressed pizy with the chauffeur-driven Edsel? He was sighted on Bush St. yesterday morn, a string of grinning pedestrians in his wake . . . Classified ad in The Sacramento Bee: "Expectant mother needs baby furniture, baby clothes, maternity clothes, also wedding ring set, small" . . . And today's phrasemaker is Helen Simi of Lafayette, who's moving to Tokyo where, she glows, her apartment "is a stone's throw from the American Embassy." That's Just Not Funny, Helen.

Standing there with a bit of egg-on-face is Western Airlines, which recently took delivery on a spanking new boeing 737 — a plane that has a new feature: when you close the cockpit door, it automatically locks, and the crew locked itself out. Loud cries of "awright, who's got the keys?" Nobody had the keys. So Flight 311 was delayed while somebody found a ladder and somebody else clambered up it and forced his way through a window in the windscreen. All aboard, and let's send for a set of keys, shall we?

Mrs. Angus Dun Jr., a lovely lady, wishes we'd revive our Reverse Status Symbol Derby just long enough to place in nomination her father, Andrew Olsen, a retired board chairman and True San Franciscan: "He was awakened at the proper moment on April 18, 1906, by having a zither fall on his head from a shelf above his bed." Noted. Mr. Olsen qualifies by reason of his theory that "no one should drive a car that costs more than his favorite shirt," in this case a Pendleton. His car is a 1950 Chevy two-door with nothing — no radio, no heater — which is known in the family as "The Aphid" because: it's green, buglike and crawls." Nominations closed.

Boggerville: Elizabeth Post, the etiquette expert, replying to a teenage girl who wants to wear a red dress instead of white to a prom: "I firmly believe in individuality but not when it flouts an accepted custom" . . . Simone de Beauvoir in "Les Belles Images": "I lack something that other people possess unless they don't have it either" (or should we blame the translator?)

Spozible: At Barelli's the other noon, Atty. Nick Alaga carried his drink from the bar to his table, stumbled, spilled it and apologized to Owner Stu Adams: "I guess I'll never make a cocktail waitress." Stu: "Maybe you're using the wrong approach."

In one ear: Mr. A.B., member of an old respected S.F. family, is in the soup for embezzling \$20,000 from a downtown insurance firm. The odd angle is that he gave all of it to various politicians — as campaign contributions. His lawyer is trying to get these politicians (Verra Big Names) to return the money, but hehehehe . . .

And out the other: say, what has happened to sentiment up there in Sacklameto? After 30 yrs., Bill Berry retired as engineer for the Water Commission, and he got no gold watch, scroll or plaque. What he did get: A farewell coffee break! Wild . . . Column-type item: The marriage of a famed ex-Yale footballer and the dgthr. of a University President has gone asunder, and is there a Third Party?

How now: S.F., your magic spell is everywhere: Bill Aguiar Jr., browsing around San Juan in Puerto Rico, ran across a bar called The Old Nob Hill featuring a drink called the Cable Car Special (151-proof rum); "Three of those, meester," the bartender told him, "and you feel like you going down the Hyde St. hill on a runaway cable!" It's everybody's favorite city, disasters included.